

Kalpna Chawla's mother reportedly had hoped for a son 41 years ago in India. She now says with pride that this daughter did better than any boy could, coming to America less than 20 years ago and twice being chosen as her adopted nation's envoy to space.

Ilan Ramon had led his nation into battle many times. On this expedition, he envisioned Israel at peace. Looking down from the windows of *Columbia*, he imagined that the quiet and calm of the heavens would someday find his country men and women on Earth.

As President Bush said on Saturday, *Columbia* is lost. But the optimism of Ilan Ramon and the visions *Columbia's* crew embodied never need pass away.

Oliver Wendell Holmes once said this: "Through our great good fortune, in our youth our hearts were touched with fire. It was given to us to learn at the outset that life is a profound and passionate thing." Today I say that it was the great good fortune of every American, of every citizen of the world, that these seven hearts were touched in youth with fire—that it became their profound passion to reach into the skies and grasp the knowledge that lies beyond our planet.

Even as our hearts grieve, there is reason to rejoice. The United States of America and the nations of the world are still called to farther frontiers by these seven, so deserving of our respect.

HONORING SPECIALIST BRIAN CLEMENS

Mr. BAYH. Mr. President, I rise today with great sadness and tremendous gratitude to honor the life of a brave young man from Kokomo, IN. Specialist Brian Clemens was just 19 years old. He died last week in Kuwait as he and his comrades in the 1st Battalion, 293rd Infantry of the Indiana Army National Guard prepared for a war that may soon begin. Brian was there, in a far away land, to fight for values we hold close to our hearts.

Specialist Clemens was the first Indiana National Guard member killed overseas since Operation Desert Storm ended more than a decade ago. He was also the first American to perish while dutifully serving our Nation in a buildup for possible war with Iraq. I mourn along with Brian's family, friends and community. While our pride in Brian shall certainly live on, so too will our sorrow. But Brian's life, his courage, and his strength of character should serve as a powerful and consoling force in the difficult days ahead.

Brian Clemens was an energetic and caring young man. He was adored by all who knew him for his charismatic personality. He was a positive force within his community, never failing to give of himself whenever possible. In the months following his graduation from Maconaquah High School in 2001, Brian returned to the school regularly to help wrestlers on the team hone their skills. He was selfless with his

time and constantly gave back to the community in which he lived, cherishing his relationships above all else. Deeply devoted to his family, Brian was especially close to his younger sister, Jennifer.

As President Abraham Lincoln wrote in a letter to the mother of a fallen Union soldier: "I pray that our Heavenly Father may assuage the anguish of your bereavement, and leave you only the cherished memory of the loved and lost, and the solemn pride that must be yours to have laid so costly a sacrifice upon the altar of freedom." These words ring as true today as they did 140 years ago, as we mourn the loss of Brian Clemens and honor the sacrifice he made for America and for all of humanity.

It is my sad duty to enter the name of Brian Clemens in the official RECORD of the U.S. Senate for his service to this country and for his profound commitment to freedom, democracy, and peace. When I think about this just cause in which we are engaged, and the unfortunate pain that comes with the loss of our heroes, I hope that families like Brian's can find comfort in the word of the prophet Isaiah who said, "He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord God will wipe away tears from off all faces."

May God grant strength and peace to those who mourn, and may God bless the United States of America.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO PAM BONRUD

• Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission recently announced that Pam Bonrud will serve as the PUC's new executive director. I wish to congratulate Ms. Bonrud for her selection to lead the PUC and to formally thank her for her 10 years of service to the Lewis and Clark Rural Water System.

During that time, Ms. Bonrud distinguished herself as an effective and dedicated leader. While with Lewis and Clark, Ms. Bonrud was instrumental in helping me and my colleagues secure the successful passage of legislation authorizing the project. Through her leadership, we were able to build a strong coalition supporting the project at the local, State and Federal levels within the States of South Dakota, Minnesota, and Iowa.

Ms. Bonrud displayed all the qualities necessary to help make sure this critically important water project would receive Federal authorization. She was professional, persistent, and determined, and always had a positive attitude, even though the authorization process took 6 years from the time the first version of the legislation was introduced in 1994.

I always enjoyed working with Ms. Bonrud, and she was able to work effectively with Senators and House Members of all three States involved and on

both sides of the aisle. She has been one of South Dakota's best advocates and supporters of rural water development, and the entire southeast region of South Dakota, as well southwestern Minnesota and northwestern Iowa, will always be thankful for her 10 years of hard work, dedication, and foresight to help bring this much needed drinking water project from the drawing board to construction.

In fact, the Lewis and Clark System will be undertaking a groundbreaking ceremony this spring, and Ms. Bonrud is a major reason it will be the beginning of making this project a reality. She leaves the project in good stead and her leadership and fine character will be sorely missed.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations, a withdrawal, and a treaty which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:22 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that pursuant to the provisions of section 201(a)(2) of the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974, Public Law 93-344, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate appoints Mr. Douglas Holtz-Eakin as Director of the Congressional Budget Office for a term of office expiring on January 3, 2007.

MEASURES REFERRED

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources was discharged from further consideration of the following measure which was referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works:

S. 277. A bill to authority the Secretary of the Interior to construct an education and administrative center at the Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge in Box Elder County, Utah.

The Committee on Governmental Affairs was discharged from further consideration of the following measure which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. Res. 51. Resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Governmental Affairs.